NEGOTIABILITY PETITIONS FILED

The first petition seeking PERB's determination of the negotiability status of proposals under amended section 20.9 was filed with the Board on February 27, 2017. State of Iowa and AFSCME Iowa Council 61, PERB Case No. 100813. The 69-page petition seeks negotiability rulings on a multitude of provisions contained in AFSCME's existing collective bargaining agreement with the State covering executive branch employees in bargaining units with less than 30 per cent public safety employees.

A second petition for expedited resolution of negotiability dispute under amended section 20.9 was filed with the Board on March 6, 2017. State of Iowa (Board of Regents) and United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, Local 896/COGS, PERB Case No. 100815. The petition seeks negotiability rulings on a number of COGS' arbitration proposals made on behalf of its non-public safety unit of graduate students.

Other public employers and employee organizations may be interested in the questions posed in these cases. The petitions and any other documents filed in these cases may be examined through the PERB eFiling Portal, https://perb.iowa.gov/efiling/. The Board has scheduled oral arguments on the State/COGS petition for March 8, and any briefs the State and COGS wish to submit will be filed not later than March 7. The State/AFSCME petition will be argued orally on March 16, with optional briefs filed not later than March 10.